



*"Providing the most basic of human needs... food, shelter & hope"*

**FISH • Friends In Service to Humanity of Northwestern Connecticut, Inc.**

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Testimony for the Appropriations Hearing/Department of Housing/February 17, 2017

Senator Osten, Senator Formica, Representative Walker,

Representative Ziobron and Members of the Committee.

I became homeless in June 2016. I bounced around between friend's homes until I found myself living in a tent. On August 28<sup>th</sup> I received a phone call telling me there was a bed available at the Torrington FISH Homeless Shelter. I have been blessed with a roof over my head, a warm bed and food in my stomach. FISH has given me hope and I am beyond grateful.

If the budget gets cut to the Shelter, there will be so many lives affected. The FISH Shelter has saved my life. I couldn't imagine being on the streets in the winter. Please think about us less fortunate people.

Sincerely,

Devon Kennerson

FISH Shelter Resident